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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

19 MAY 1975

INTERNATIONAL  
SECURITY AFFAIRS

## OSD Declassification/Release Instructions on File

MEMORANDUM FOR Deputy to the Director of Central Intelligence for the  
Intelligence Community

SUBJECT: Informal OSD comments on the Draft DCI "Perspectives for Intel-  
ligence: 1976-81" (U)

(U) Subject comments were provided during the NSCIC Working Group meeting on 12 March 1975. The attached redraft of the "Perspectives for Intelligence" supplements those comments and makes detailed changes and additions to the original text.

(S/NFD) The changes in this redraft, however, are limited modifications to the original text. They do not include other major additions to the document that OSD suggested would be desirable from the user's viewpoint during the meeting of 12 March. These additional changes are summarized below.

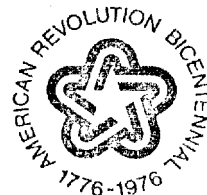
- a. Identification of areas where the USSR, CPR, and other threat countries are vulnerable or run significant risks

The current document focuses almost exclusively on the risks the United States faces during 1976-1981. It does not highlight the need for intelligence which gives U.S. policy makers information on the problems that threat countries face, and on the major risks that threat country decision makers may perceive during 1976-1981 and which may influence their decisions. Such intelligence on threat country vulnerabilities is vital if the United States is to be able to take actions that persuade or influence the behavior of threat nations.

- b. The need to examine decision-making processes within other governments

A clear statement is needed of the interest that intelligence should have in the detailed decision-making processes within other governments. There are repeated references to the need to know other governments' policies, decisions, etc., but nothing is mentioned about the equally important need to understand the internal workings of other governments, and their decision-making process.

Classified by ASD (ISA)  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED  
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- c. Providing separate sub-sections on the Arab-Israeli confrontation, the Persian Gulf, and possibly Southeast Asia

The current draft describes regional perspectives only for the USSR, the CPR, and Eastern and Western Europe. It aggregates all other countries into a single category for the "third world," although some mention is made of other specific area problems in the section on "Other Priorities" at the end of the draft (pp. 15-17).

It is suggested that the Arab-Israeli confrontation, the situation in the Persian Gulf, and the changing situation in Southeast Asia are important enough to deserve separate treatment.

- d. Other areas where separate sub-sections may be required

Other areas or problems which may merit separate attention include:

- (1) Changes in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- (2) The political situation in the Eastern Mediterranean and the changing political alignment of Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus.
- (3) Divisions within the OPEC powers and between the OPEC powers and the rest of the third world.
- (4) Impact of British attitudes towards the EEC.
- (5) Uncertainties in the future world political role of Japan.
- (6) Changes in the domestic and foreign politics of Portugal, Spain, and Italy.
- (7) Overall changes in the balance of power and interest in the Mediterranean.
- (8) The balance of tactical technology, and the "maturing" of technological sophistication in Soviet and Warsaw Pact tactical forces relative to those of the United States.
- (9) The growing proliferation of capabilities for nuclear, chemical and biological warfare.
- (10) The impact of world arms trade and arms industry.

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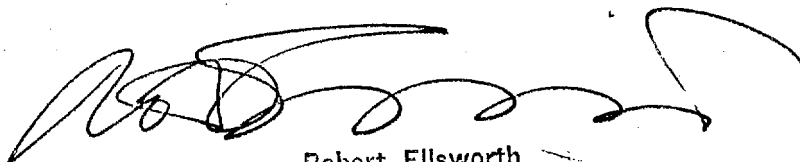
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(11) The loss or reduction of U.S. influence in key areas affecting world sea routes such as the entrance to the Mediterranean, the Suez Canal, Bosphorus, Panama Canal, etc.

(12) Instability in Latin America.



Robert Ellsworth  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
International Security Affairs

Attachment

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